

Washington, DC – Thursday, Congressman Harry Teague applauded the Department of Defense for their decision to begin distributing retroactive compensation to the over 185,000 stop-lossed troops since September 11, 2001. The payment provides \$500 for every month a service member or veteran's enlistment was involuntarily extended. Congress established this payment in the 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act enacted this summer.

“Our service men, women and veterans have served our country tirelessly, never faltering even when asked to stay and fight longer. In return, they deserve the best our country can offer,” said Congressman Harry Teague a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. “The stop-loss policy places a tremendous burden on the troops and their families. This monthly payment is just one step in honoring their commitment and dedication to our country.”

The Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay is available to service members of every military branch who had their enlistment extended or retirement suspended due to Stop Loss between Sept. 11, 2001 and Sept. 30, 2009. As of yesterday, service members were able to begin submitting claims for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay. All applications must be submitted to the respective services no later than Oct. 21, 2010. Family members of deceased service members should contact the appropriate military service for assistance in filing their claim.

Any service members or veterans needing assistance filing a claim to receive their stop-loss compensation can contact Congressman Teague's office at 1-888-9-TEAGUE or online at [www.teague.house.gov](http://www.teague.house.gov)

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